

**REMARKS:**

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS AND ARGUMENTS FOR PATENTABILITY:**

Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 7. Applicant respectfully submits that the noted amendments in view of the following comments obviates all rejections and place the application in condition for allowance.

**REGARDING THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-11 are pending in the application.

**IN RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION:**

**REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b):**

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Fritz et al. (US Pat. 5,805,061). Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 7 to recite a plurality of (measuring) means for measuring the individual currents. Applicant respectfully submits that Fritz et al. does not disclose this limitation. Fritz et al. discloses a singular measuring shunt R3 for measuring a current. The singular measuring shunt of Fritz et al. is described Col 4, lines 66-67 through Col 5, lines 1-4.

Furthermore, Fritz et al. does not disclose a means for applying a second voltage to a second amount of power lines in the first sub system as claimed by the present technology. Therefore the disclosure of Fritz does not teach the detection of the presence and characteristics of a detected trailer as disclosed in the current application.

Additionally, dependent claims 2-6 that depend from independent claim 1 and dependent claims 8-11 that depend from independent claim 7 are now in condition for allowance.

More specifically, Fritz et al. does not disclose a means for applying the second voltage and or a means for applying the second voltage that is only activated when the individual current consumed by the components in the first sub system is below the level of said first predefined threshold as recited in claim 2.

Also, Fritz et al. does not disclose a means for applying a second voltage wherein the means for applying the second voltage applies said second voltage to each of the individual components in the first sub system as recited in claim 3.

Fritz et al. does not disclose a means for applying a second voltage wherein the means for applying the second voltage applies said second voltage to at least one group of components in the sub system as recited in claim 4.

Fritz et al. does not disclose a device as recited by claim 1 wherein the application of the first voltage is also used as said second voltage, with the second amount of power lines being the total amount of power lines to the sub system as recited in claim 5.

Fritz et al. does not disclose a device as recited in claim 1, wherein the sub system is used is the light system of the trailer as recited in claim 6.

Fritz et al. does not disclose a method as recited in claim 7, wherein the second voltage is applied only when the individual current consumed by the components in the first sub system is below the level of said first predefined threshold as recited in claim 8.

Fritz et al. does not disclose a method as recited in claim 8, wherein the second voltage is applied to each of the individual components in the sub system as recited in claim 9.

Fritz et al. does not disclose a method as recited in claim 8, wherein the second voltage is applied to at least one group of components in the sub system as recited in claim 9.

Fritz et al. does not disclose a method as recited in claim 8, wherein the second voltage is applied to at least one group of components in the sub system as recited in claim 10.

Fritz et al. does not disclose a method as recited in claim 8, wherein the first voltage is also used as said second voltage, with the second amount of power lines being the total amount of power lines to the sub system as recited in claim 11.

Given the above amendments and remarks applicant respectfully requests the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) of claims 1-11 be withdrawn and that the examiner indicate the allowance of the claims in the next paper from the office.

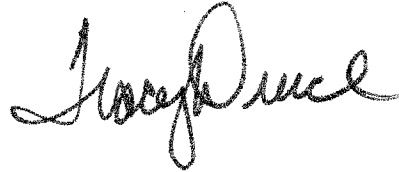
The undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application.

The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 14-1437, referencing Attorney Docket No.: 0173.030.NPUS01.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner may directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tracy Druce", with a stylized, cursive script.

Tracy W. Druce, Esq.  
Reg. No. 35,493